

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer having at least one input device, comprising:  
  
an input device including at least one RF transponder that is controllable by a user to be selectively capable or incapable of transmitting a signal;  
  
a computing arrangement including a reader and a microprocessor, the computing arrangement being adapted to receive and decode the signal from the at least one RF transponder; and  
  
a display adapted to display information represented by the signal.
2. The computer as set forth in claim 1, wherein the at least one RF transponder is configured as part of an RFID device, the at least one RF transponder being controlled to be capable of transmitting the signal by connecting an integrated circuit and an antenna and is controlled to be incapable of transmitting the signal by disconnecting the integrated circuit and the antenna.
3. The computer as set forth in claim 1, wherein the at least one RF transponder is controlled to be capable of transmitting the signal by exposing an antenna and is controlled to be incapable of transmitting the signal by shielding the antenna.
4. The computer as set forth in claim 1, wherein the input device includes a keypad having a plurality of keys.

5. The computer as set forth in claim 4, wherein the keypad is arranged such that, when one of the plurality of keys is depressed, an antenna is caused to connect with a corresponding integrated circuit and send a signal.

6. The computer as set forth in claim 5, wherein depression of selected combinations of keys simultaneously sends a different signal than depression of the same keys individually.

7. The computer as set forth in claim 6, wherein the computing arrangement is arranged such that depression of a selected sequence of keys within a predetermined period of time is decoded differently than if the sequence of keys is not depressed within the predetermined period of time.

8. The computer as set forth in claim 5, wherein the computing arrangement is arranged such that depression of a selected sequence of keys within a predetermined period of time is decoded differently than if the sequence of keys is not depressed within the predetermined period of time.

9. The computer as set forth in claim 1, wherein the input device includes a pointing device.

10. The computer as set forth in claim 1, wherein the computer is adapted to be connected by wires to one or more wired input devices adapted to perform the same function as the input device.

11. The computer as set forth in claim 1, wherein the input device is adapted to communicate via wiring to the computing arrangement and to be disconnected from the wiring and communicate via the at least one RF transponder.

12. The computer as set forth in claim 1, wherein the computing arrangement causes status information pertaining to the input device on the display.

13. The computer as set forth in claim 1, wherein the input device operates together with another RFID product.

14. The computer as set forth in claim 13, wherein the computing arrangement is adapted to receive and decode the signal from the at least one RF transponder only when the computing arrangement detects the presence of an authorized RFID tag.

15. The computer as set forth in claim 1, wherein the display is a monitor.

16. The computer as set forth in claim 1, wherein the display includes a printer.

17. A computer having at least one input device, comprising:

an input device including at least one RF transponder that is configured as part of an RFID device, the at least one RF transponder being controllable by a user to be selectively capable or incapable of transmitting a signal;

a computing arrangement including a reader and a microprocessor, the computing arrangement being adapted to receive and decode the signal from the at least one RF transponder;

wherein the input device includes a pointing device.

18. The computer as set forth in claim 17, wherein the at least one RF transponder includes an array of integrated circuits and an antenna that is moved over the array to cause signals to be transmitted.

19. The computer as set forth in claim 18, wherein the array of integrated circuits includes a wire grid connected to a plurality of integrated circuit chips, the antenna contacting the wire grid to cause signals to be transmitted.

20. The computer as set forth in claim 18, wherein the antenna is part of a stylus.

21. The computer as set forth in claim 17, wherein the at least one RF transponder includes an array of antennas disposed in a first plane and an array of integrated circuits disposed in a second plane, each antenna being movable upon application of a force to the antenna to contact a corresponding one of the integrated

circuits and transmit a corresponding signal and, upon removal of the force, to be removed from contact with the one of the integrated circuits.

22. The computer as set forth in claim 21, wherein the antennas are disposed on a flexible material.

23. The computer as set forth in claim 22, wherein the flexible material is a sheet material.

24. The computer as set forth in claim 21, comprising a stylus for moving the antennas.

25. The computer as set forth in claim 17, wherein the at least one RF transponder includes a plurality of RF transponders

26. The computer as set forth in claim 17, wherein the at least one RF transponder includes a plurality of antennas and a rotatable member, and wherein rotation of the rotatable member causes the antennas to connect with and disconnect from one or more integrated circuits.

27. The computer as set forth in claim 17, wherein the at least one RF transponder includes at least one antenna and a pivotable member, and wherein pivoting

movement of the pivotable member causes the at least one antenna to connect with and disconnect from one or more integrated circuits.

28. The computer as set forth in claim 17, wherein the input device operates together with another RFID product.

29. The computer as set forth in claim 28, wherein the computing arrangement is adapted to receive and decode the signal from the at least one RF transponder only when the computing arrangement detects the presence of an authorized RFID tag.

30. A computer input device, comprising:

an input device including at least one RF transponder that is configured as part of an RFID device, the at least one RF transponder being controllable by a user to be selectively capable or incapable of transmitting a signal,

wherein the input device is adapted to cooperate with a computing arrangement including a reader and a microprocessor, the computing arrangement being adapted to receive and decode the signal from the at least one RF transponder, and wherein the input device includes a pointing device.

31. The computer input device as set forth in claim 30, wherein the at least one RF transponder includes an array of integrated circuits and an antenna that is moved over the array to cause signals to be transmitted.

32. The computer as set forth in claim 31, wherein the array of integrated circuits includes a wire grid connected to a plurality of integrated circuit chips, the antenna contacting the wire grid to cause signals to be transmitted.

33. The computer input device as set forth in claim 30, wherein the at least one RF transponder includes an array of antennas disposed in a first plane and an array of integrated circuits disposed in a second plane, each antenna being movable upon application of a force to the antenna to contact a corresponding one of the integrated circuits and transmit a corresponding signal and, upon removal of the force, to be removed from contact with the one of the integrated circuits.

34. The computer input device as set forth in claim 30, wherein the at least one RF transponder includes a plurality of RF transponders

35. The computer input device as set forth in claim 30, wherein the at least one RF transponder includes a plurality of antennas and a rotatable member, and wherein rotation of the rotatable member causes the antennas to connect with and disconnect from one or more integrated circuits.

36. The computer input device as set forth in claim 30, wherein the at least one RF transponder includes at least one antenna and a pivotable member, and wherein pivoting movement of the pivotable member causes the at least one antenna to connect with and disconnect from one or more integrated circuits.